

Chase Garden Creek Subwatershed

Dennis, Cape Cod, Massachusetts

The Chase Garden Creek Subwatershed is located in Dennis and Yarmouth. It has an area of 3,117 acres. Chase Garden Creek connects with Cape Cod Bay. The central portion of the watershed is dominated by Black Flats and is undeveloped. The northern and eastern portions are residentially developed. Route 6A runs through the watershed

Division of Marine Fisheries Sanitary Surveys observed that a large marsh surrounds Chase Garden Creek and wildlife is likely to be impacting water quality.

Municipal water is available in almost all parts of this subwatershed. The Yarmouth Water Department is installing 10 water services a week which is a large rate of growth. There are no municipal sewers in the Towns of Yarmouth or Dennis. A Yarmouth-Dennis septage treatment plant with a capacity of 22 million gallons/year is currently handling 17-18 million gallons/year from all over Cape Cod.

Stewards:

- Dennis Water Quality Advisory Board

Studies conducted in the watershed:

- Cape Cod Atlas of Tidally Restricted Salt Marshes. 2001. Cape Cod Commission.

Who is collecting water quality data and where:

- Unknown

Management actions taken:

- Fifteen acres of abandoned pasture were cleared of most invading woody trees and shrubs to reclaim coastal grassland habitat. MA Division of Fisheries and Wildlife. February 2000.
- Dennis Land Bank Committee and the Conservation Commission received a Year 2002 Self Help Grant of \$247,000 to purchase 8.52 acres that occupy 600 feet along Chase Garden Creek. The land is a historical parcel and has an uncommon black alder stand.

Subwatershed facts: (For data sources see Appendix)

- 21 E sites: 3. Locations are Mobil Station, Route 6A Dennis; near corner of Nobscusset (Route 6A/Main St.); and Hinckley's Home Centers, Route 6A in Dennis
- Solid waste sites: none
- Zone IIs located in this watershed: 2
- Interim Wellhead Protection Areas (IWPAs): none
- Percent of the undeveloped land that is protected (according to 1985/1990 data): 36%
- Acres of existing wetlands: 769
- Certified vernal pools: none
- Named freshwater ponds: Tom Matthews (*Yarmouth*)

- Named rivers or creeks: Chase Garden Creek, Judah's Creek (*Dennis*)
- 1998 Massachusetts 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies: A segment of Chase Garden Creek, from just below Route 6 to the mouth at Cape Cod Bay - pathogens.
- Shellfish growing areas: Chase Garden Creek is conditionally approved.
- Beach closures: Chapin Beach was closed to swimming for at least one day during the 2001 season due to high enterococcus bacteria counts.
- This watershed contains Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) Estimated Habitats of Rare Wildlife.
- The Towns of Dennis and Yarmouth are required to comply with EPA's Stormwater Phase II Final Rule.

Priorities:

- Matthew's Pond needs volunteers to participate in the Pond and Lakes Stewardship Project (PALS), measuring water quality and other characteristics of the pond.
- Implement BMPs for the storm drain located at the intersection of Beach Street and Chase Garden Creek.
- Acquire open space. Parcels considered a priority for acquisition for water supply protection and development: Dennis Tracts 14, 15, 17, 18, and 20 and Yarmouth Tracts 1, 8, 9, 12, 14, and 20 were ranked as having medium or high water supply development potential in the Cape Cod Commission's *Priority Land Acquisition Assessment Project* (April 1999). These tracts are located throughout the towns of Dennis and Yarmouth.

Recreation:

Camping areas: none

- Golf courses: King's Way Golf Club

Pathways and trails:

- Romig-Jacquinet & Simpkins Neck Conservation Area
- www.capecodcommission.org/pathways/trailguide.htm

Public access:

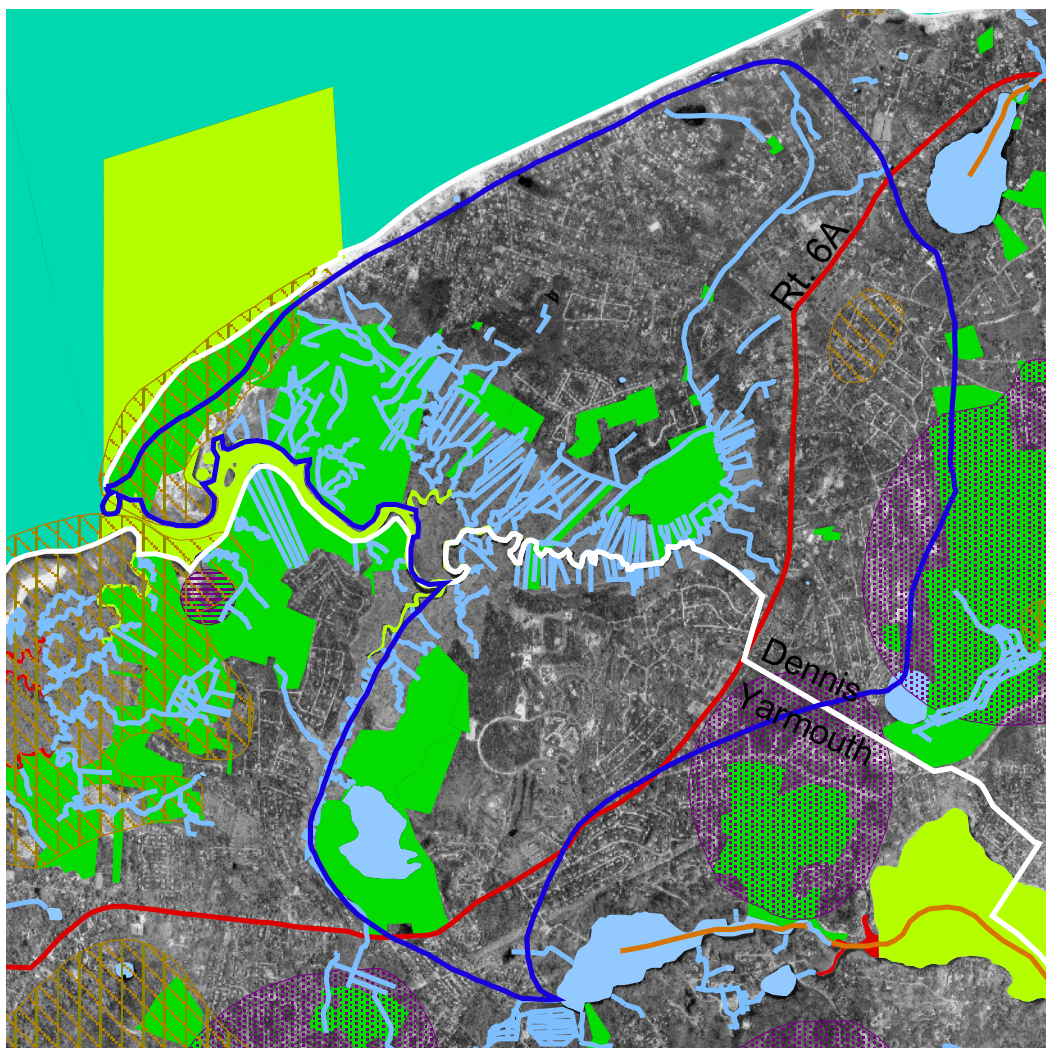
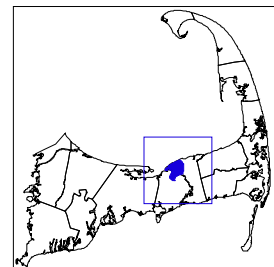
- www.state.ma.us/dfwele/pab/pabSEmap.htm

Public beaches and landings:

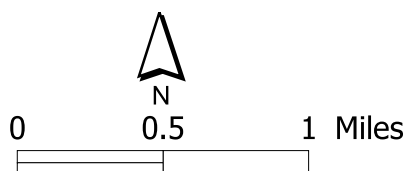
- Chapin Memorial Beach, Bayview, Horsefoot Path Beach, Mayflower Beach
- Two landings on Cape Cod Bay

Chase Garden Creek

Dennis and Yarmouth, MA



Watershed Resources



Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program Data

- Certified Vernal Pool
- Priority Habitats of Rare Species
- Estimated Habitats of Rare Species

Groundwater Protection Areas

- Interim Wellhead Protection Area
- Zone II
- Solid Waste Facility

Watershed Boundary

Anadromous Fish Run

Shellfish Growing Areas

- APPROVED
- CONDITIONALLY APPROVED
- MANAGEMENT CLOSURE
- PROHIBITED
- RESTRICTED

Open Space

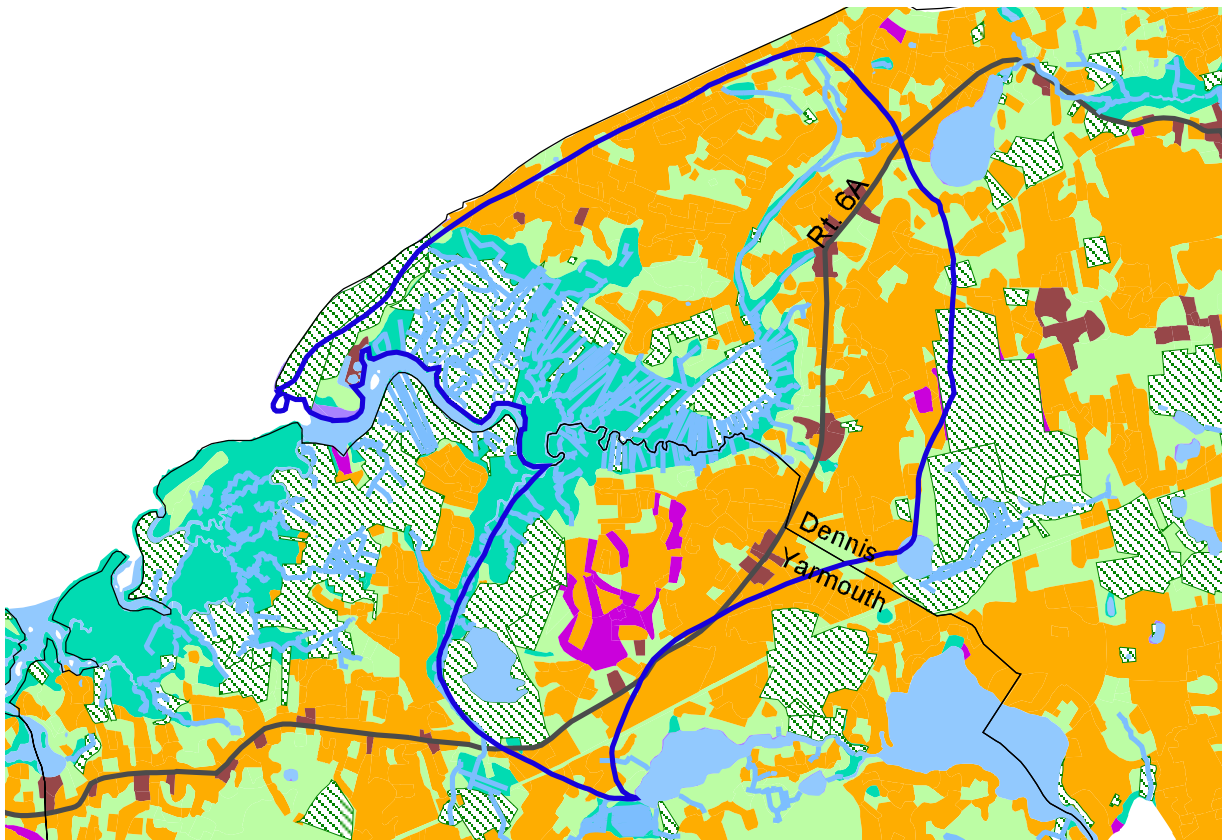
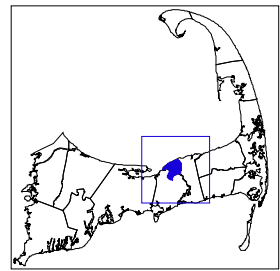
Streams

Ponds

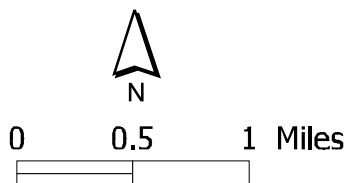
Roads

Chase Garden Creek

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Land Use



Land Use

